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NATIONAL GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

FIRST ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE

1st.

Of Old Homes and Landmarks

In Berlin, Worcester County, Maryland

Md.

St. Martins Church

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

1832153

The Junior Guild extends to the home owners our appreciation for their co-operation, personal inconvenience, and interest which have made this Pilgrimage possible.

Kenwood — Mr. and Mrs. Walter M. Kenly

Burley Cottage — Mrs. G. Edward Henry

Burley Manor — Mr. and Mrs. Edward H. Hammond

Waverly — Mr. and Mrs. E. Bowen Quillin

Dunwandrin — Mrs. Harry S. Purnell

Caleb's Discovery — Mr. and Mrs. William Phillips

Engleside — owned by Mrs. Alger Abbott; occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Schoolfield

Golden Quarter — Mr. Franklin Purnell

Fassit House — Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lee Carey

Lucky Find — Mrs. Madeline Gill

The Junior Guild takes this opportunity to express their appreciation to Mrs. William H. Engel for her unselfish devotion of time and effort to the drawings used in our "flyer" and this booklet.

We wish to thank The Industrial Guild and members of the Parish who have so readily given their assistance.

Our thanks go to the ladies who have so generously served as models for the Fashion Show.

Modern apparel has been furnished through the courtesy of the following Berlin Merchants: Burbage, Powell & Co., The Jeanne Shoppe, The Style Guide and I. Villani & Sons, Inc.

We thank The Barrett Chevrolet, Inc. for cars offered for tour transportation.

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Dunwandrin

DUNWANDRIN, a modern name given to a spacious old house of Victorian style was built in 1858 just prior to the hectic days of the war between the states. This home, one of the largest dwellings in this section, was built on a large tract of land known as "Merry Sherwood." This tract was held by Henry Johnson, and this home was built by him for his bride.

For many years it was also known as "The Stokes Place," having been the property of the late Granville Stokes in the late eighteen hundreds.

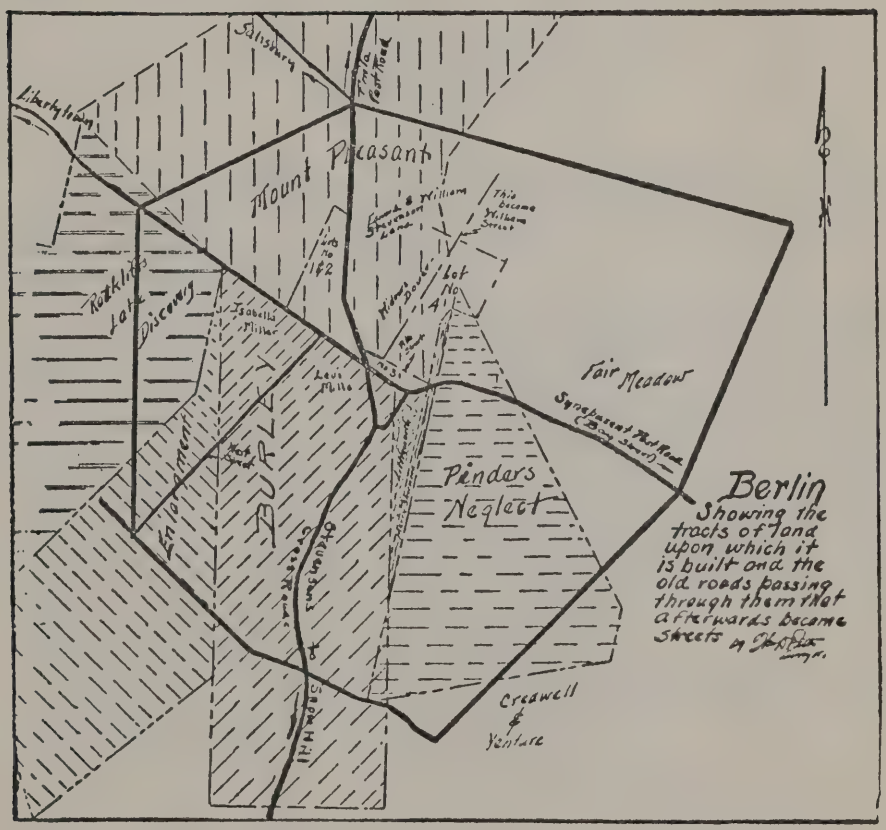
Mrs. Purnell and the late Col. Purnell purchased this property just after the turn of the century. "Dunwandrin" is a spacious square structure built in a setting of many and varied trees and shrubs native of this locality.

Nine marble fireplaces throughout this home confirm the lavish scale in which this house was conceived.

History has it that entertainment was done on a lavish scale back in the early days and guests were not callers, but guests of long duration. "Dunwandrin" is surely our best example of a home built with an eye to entertainment. The "ball room" to the right of the hallway is in evidence of this. It can truthfully be said that Col. and Mrs. Harry Purnell, during Col. Purnell's lifetime, lived in this tradition. House guests and week end parties were always welcomed by the Purnells.

A rare collection of tribal knives gathered throughout the Philippine Islands by Col. Purnell will be on display together with local Indian relics picked up by Col. Purnell in his frequent walks and hunts in this section.

Original Land-grant Map



Presented by Lillian B Cady
to N. G. S. 12/5/53

WELCOME

The Junior Guild of St Paul's Episcopal Church welcomes you to our First Annual Pilgrimage of Old Homes and Landmarks. We trust that your visit will be an enjoyable one and that you will receive as much pleasure from the tour as we have received in planning it for you.

The Pilgrimage is divided into two tours, one of which is principally in the town of Berlin, and the other in the surrounding country-side. The cost of each tour is one dollar and twenty five cents; or any individual home may be visited for a quarter. You may start on the Pilgrimage at the Parish House, on Church Street, Berlin, or at any home on the tour. We suggest that you purchase your ticket for each tour at your first stop. Luncheon will be served at the Parish House between 11 o'clock A. M. and 2 o'clock P. M., at the cost of eighty five cents per plate. Tickets may be procured at the Parish House or any of the homes on the tour. During the luncheon models will show period and modern dress. Pilgrimage Arrows will direct your way. Attendants in the homes will give their assistance and provide information. If you desire overnight accomodations consult the advertisments in this booklet. Limited transportation will be available from the Parish House.

We appreciate your interest in our Pilgrimage. You are always welcome in our town but we especially hope to see you again next year when several additional historical homes will be opened for our tour.

The Junior Guild

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Program Contribution 50c

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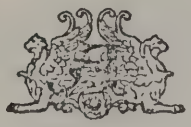

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Waverly

WAVERLY on the Delaware Trail is the picturesque name given to gracious old home so well preserved and renovated by Mr. and Mrs. E. Bowen Quillin. This home lies on the southern corporate limits of Berlin. Within a circle driveway in front of this house stands a stately old English elm purported by its owners to be the second oldest living elm in Worcester County.

From historical information available we learn that Elisha Purnell built this house around 1835. It is said that when Mr. Purnell returned from a trip to Washington he brought with him a sketch of a Paladian Window which he incorporated in the plans for this house which now enhances the beauty of this fine home.

The massive front door with its original solid brass Sheffield lock enters into a hallway in which we find a gracefully paneled stairway leading to the second floor.

The spacious living room directly ahead has as its center of attraction a massive chimney and fireplace in which there are five separate flues, which at one time must have served the early residents of this home as a fine source of winter heat.

Beyond the living room was the original kitchen which now serves as the dining room.

Some years ago the fireplace in this room was sealed over and years later, when Mr. Quillin was restoring this property he found behind the false front, pots and pans hanging from their original hooks and arms, just as grandmother had left them hanging many, many years ago.

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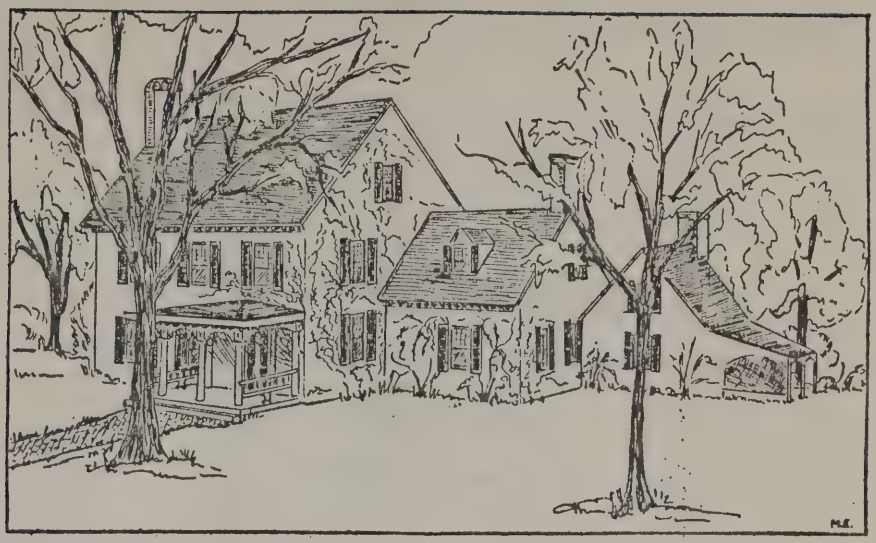

Burley Manor

BURLEY MANOR, the home of Mr. & Mrs. Edward H. Hammond, lies snugly nestled behind lofty trees and ivy covered stubs of once grand old trees. Built around 1832 by John Polk Mitchell and bought by Elizabeth Victor Hammond, widow of Edward Hammond. Elizabeth Hammond moved with her family from Queponco, eight miles south of Berlin, to Burley Manor, which was believed to have been just completed or under construction at that time.

It is interesting to note that this beautiful home has been in the Hammond family ever since its erection in 1832. The present owner, Mr. Edward H. Hammond, lawyer, is a great grandson of its first occupant, Elizabeth Victor Hammond.

Forty five acres of the original tract is still a part of this old landmark.

The architectural design of this old home would seem in keeping with the time. An unusual placing of the kitchen building is a feature of distinction with this house.

The present owners of Burley Manor point out that in the continuous occupancy of this house by the Hammonds that no major architectural changes have been made and one can picture the Hammond ancestors relaxing in the spacious rooms found here.

Many residents can recall when this home was almost completely engulfed in clinging tentacles of great vines.

In approaching this home one should particularly note the old original brick walk and the beautiful intricate designs of the front porch.

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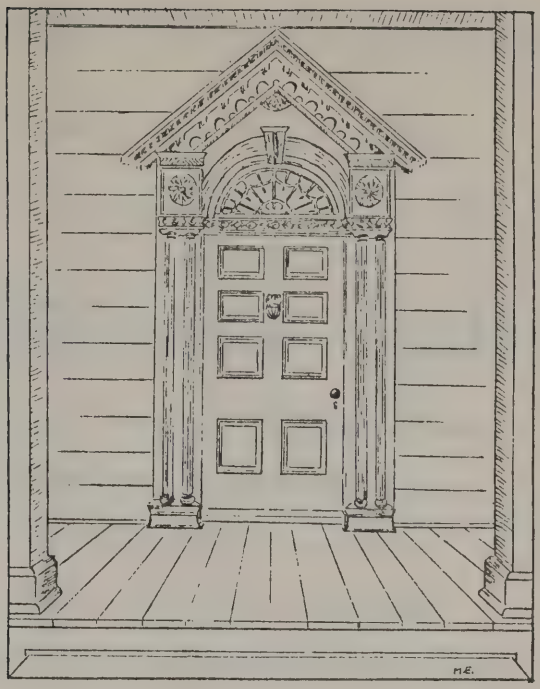

Kenwood

KENWOOD on the Burley tract rises majestically above the encroachment of a modern highway which has all but devoured the largest and best preserved specimens of English boxwood to be found in this section. It has become necessary for the present owners, Mr. & Mrs. Walter M. Kenley, to relocate much of this boxwood which undoubtedly was brought to this country from their native land. Time alone could have made these boxwoods the towering giants that they are today.

Visitors to this home cannot help but stand enchanted before the front entrance and marvel at the beauty which the architect captured in molding such a fine work of art.

Little is known of the history of this house, but from old records we know that it was built some time prior to 1832. This is evidenced by the fact that John Mitchell lived in this house and it was transferred by a deed dated in 1832 from the said John Polk Mitchell and Thomas Timmons to one William Nelson.

Kenwood has also been known as the "Robbins home," and he was known to have been a great lover of nature and at one time much of the surrounding land was covered with many rare and native flowers. It is quite in keeping with the history of this home that the present owner (Walter M. Kenley) is also a lover of flowers, and it is perhaps for this reason that "Kenwood" is so endowed with nature's beauty.

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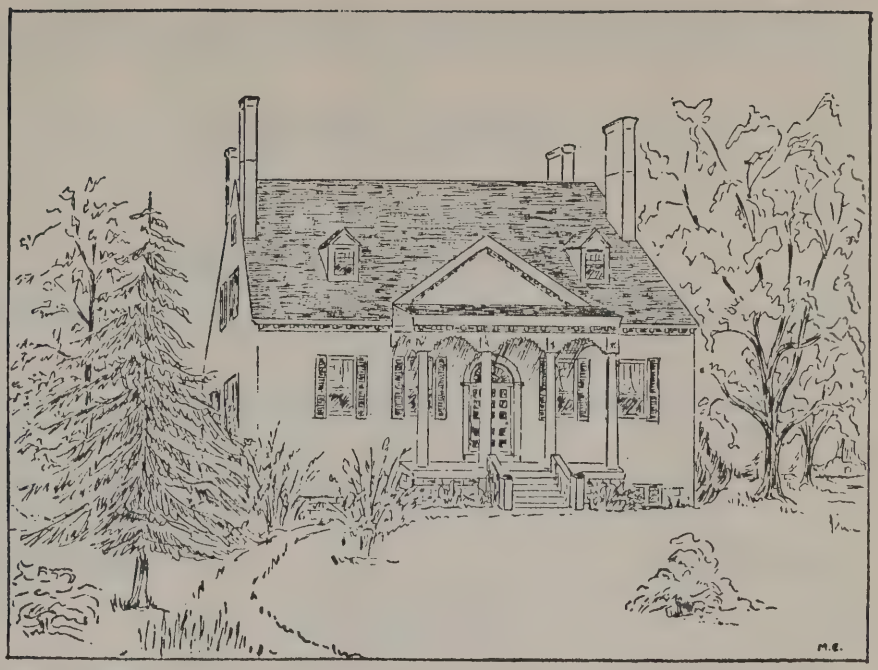

Burley Cottage

BURLEY COTTAGE on Burley tract is truly a distinctive landmark of this section. Cottage it may be, but to us of today it is a grand old house well preserved in the true tradition of its time.

It was built in 1834 by John Selby Purnell and his wife, Margaret Campbell Henry, of near Cambridge, Maryland.

The house is simply laid out with a large hallway running from front to back, with rooms on either side. The left or North side of the hallway is solid brick thirteen inches thick and runs the entire length of the building. A large back porch extends across the entire width of the house. The drawing room to the left of the hallway is enchanced by wall paper brought to this country from England over one hundred years ago.

The bricks used in the construction of this house were burned on the property now occupied by the Episcopal rectory next door.

Six generations of the family have lived here. It is now occupied by Mrs. George Edward Henry, a great granddaughter of the original owner John Selby Purnell.

One of the interesting features of this house is the slave quarters in the basement. Here we find four large rooms providing living quarters for the slaves.

On the south wall of Burley Cottage authentic historical data is etched in the bricks for all to see. These markings give the date as 1834 and the masons names - J. Jones and J. Adkins, also the original owners initials J. S. P. are there.

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St. Pauls Church

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, officially known as St. Paul's Worcester Parish, was built in 1825, on a part of "Littleworth" of the four original land grants in this immediate vicinity.

History reveals that after the trying times of the Revolutionary War and the concentration of population at Berlin, attendance at church services in Old St. Martin's dwindled until it was found feasible to close its doors. In 1825 it was decided to erect a place of worship in this thriving community of Berlin and to be called St. Paul's Worcester Parish.

The church was started under the direction of The Reverend Samuel C. Stratton, who became its first rector. The building committee consisted of the following lay members. Ed. Robbins, Dr. George Purnell, and Thomas N. Williams. It was not until 1845 that Bishop Whittington consecrated this house of worship.

In 1904, during a howling northwest wind, the little community of Berlin fought its greatest battle of survival, fire started on the north edge of town and swept through the heart of Berlin destroying many places of business, homes, and St. Paul's Church. Our forefathers had built this parish well and after the smoke cleared it was evident that some of the original structure could be rebuilt on the standing walls.

In 1907 the rebuilt church opened its doors for its faithful parishoners to worship.

It is quite fitting to here relate that Mr. Ethan Allen Carey took as his bride Miss Ada Henry, to be the first to marry in this new church. Mr. and Mrs. Carey are still faithful and loyal to the church in which they took their vows.

All who visit our church find in its simplicity a beauty that is hard to describe. Its lofty peaks reach to the sky and graceful archways adorn its chancel.

In recent years two new Sunday school rooms have been added and many gracious gifts of late have added charm and distinction to this house of God which we all of St. Paul' love so dearly.

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Fassit House

FASSIT HOUSE, a small one and one half story brick building stands four and a half miles southwest of Berlin facing Sinepuxent Bay. It was built by the family of the same name, which was prominent in Worcester County in the early eighteenth century.

The house is forty by twenty-four feet and is built entirely of brick. It has one brick chimney but from the evidence of new brick in the south wall probably another fireplace was there at one time. Two bricked up windows are on this same side of the house. The exterior walls are most interesting, as they are decorated with remarkable glazed diamond and herringbone design. It has been said the Colonial builder liked to give his love of color and vivid display free reign in gay and complicated brick work. Fassit House is the best example of this in Maryland.

Fassit House has a well constructed flight of stairs in its own hall, opening into the main hall bisecting the house. The stairway has a "duck" newel, so called because of the curious curve in the newel head. A commodious closet opens off the first landing. The largest room in the house is the living room which is entered on the right of the hall. The dining room door is almost opposite and it is from this room that the corner fireplace was removed.

In the War of 1812 Fassit House was fired upon by the British fleet, but the inhabitants had left, after burying the family silver. As the hiding place was forgotten, there are still hopeful treasure-seekers who dig holes in the wide meadow surrounding the building.

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St. Martin's Church

ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH, Worcester Parish was built on the site of the Chapel of Ease for Snow Hill Parish which had been erected in 1703. St. Martin's was started in 1756 and completed in 1759.

The original church register of St. Martin's Church, Worcester Parish gives the following account: "Tuesday ye 6 of July, 1756 the Vestry bought two acres of land at the St. Martin's Chapell of James Mumford for to build a new Church on and sd. Vestry is to give Mumford 5 lbs. for ye two acres."

This Parish was constituted from part of Snow Hill, now All Hallow's Parish and was erected under the patronage of the Queen of England, who presented St. Martin's Church with a silver service.

In the early days, the Vestry of this Parish built Prince Georges Chapel at Selbyville. When in 1763 Mason and Dixon established the boundry line between Maryland and Delaware it divided Worcester Parish and placed Prince Georges in Delaware. At that time the silver service of St. Martin's was divided and part of it is now in Millsboro, Delaware. The remaining part, which is St. Martin's will be shown in the church.

The first rector, Reverend Edward Dingle, according to the records, came to this parish in November 1753. He, with two other rectors, Reverend William Macclenachan and the Reverend Samuel Tingle, are buried beneath the floor of this church.

This distinctive old church is truly one of the grand old landmarks on the Eastern Shore. It is understood that the Maryland Historical Society places it high on its list in its contemplated restoration of outstanding buildings in Maryland.

The original box pews are still in service today, and it is said that this edifice is one of the best preserved buildings of its time.

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Golden Quarter Farm

GOLDEN QUARTER FARM, a delightful name for so charming a place, is located three miles East of Berlin, Maryland. This fine home is owned and occupied by Mr. L. Franklin Purnell. Legend has it that the name, Golden Quarter Farm, derives from the vast sweeps of coreopsis that bloom and fill the nearby fields every Spring.

The original house of brick was built in 1761 by Ebenezer and Naomi Campbell. Most of the old opulent mansions were built on the shore of rivers. This made it easy to reach them by boat, since the land approaches were little more than tracks through the wilderness at the time.

Golden Quarter Farm, originally a farm of several thousand acres, was a grant from Lord Baltimore. It is situated on beautiful winding Ayres Creek.

Ebenezer Campbell was a good Presbyterian, and his will, dated June 28, 1773, bequeathed to the elders of Buckingham Congregation (Berlin, Md.) 50 pounds current passing money in Maryland, in trust, for and to use and advantage of the visiting ministers. He also left a sum to educate his son at the New Jersey College (possibly Princeton); a sum to buy religious books; a sum to be given to the poor on the plantation. Other names mentioned were: Burton, Evans, Fassitt, Covington, Atkinson, Franklin, Murray, Harris, Spence and many more. He also specified that once in every three years corn must be tilled.

The English Elm tree in the front yard is the largest of its specie in Maryland. It is 90 feet high, 138 feet spread, and 20 feet one inch girth. This magnificent tree, resembling the white oak, is the Ayres Elm, whose girth and lofty crown of gnarled branches make it a landmark for boatmen coming up Chincoteague and Newport bays. It shades the old house of Golden Quarter, standing alongside the small kitchen wing of brick. This wing antedates the two-story frame house of the Revolutionary period which has heart-pine paneling and carved mantels. The ivy abounding and this gigantic Elm are said to have been grown from seedlings brought from England by a woman of the family.

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Engleside

ENGLESIDE was built about 1770 and was one of the first manor-houses on the Mt. Pleasant Tract. The earliest known resident was a Revolutionary major, John Evans, member of the Continental Army, who lived there until his death in 1787. Engleside, then called Mt. Pleasant, passed on to his sons Isaac and Elisha and was sold by them to Esau Williams.

The main house was built on a more or less grand scale after the manner of the prosperous planters in the days before the Revolution. The twin parlors measure 18x20 and have 11½' ceilings, while the hall which extends across the front of the house is 32 feet long with a great paneled door in the center. A broad stairway with a delicate hand carved bannister rises gracefully to the attic, passing across the front windows on the first and second floors.

In 1839 Littleton Bowen bought the house from the widow of Isaac Bridell and sometime afterward he added the wing. The wing is entirely different in architectural style, having three full stories, but the interior detail closely follows that in the main house. Bowen's name appears on the fireplace facing in the dining room.

Contrary to the custom of quartering slaves in cabins, the slaves at Engleside inhabited the cellar where a fireplace provided cooking and heating facilities. The cellar room beneath the main house is partitioned by walls of English brick and there may be seen the great hand-hewn beams which support the house.

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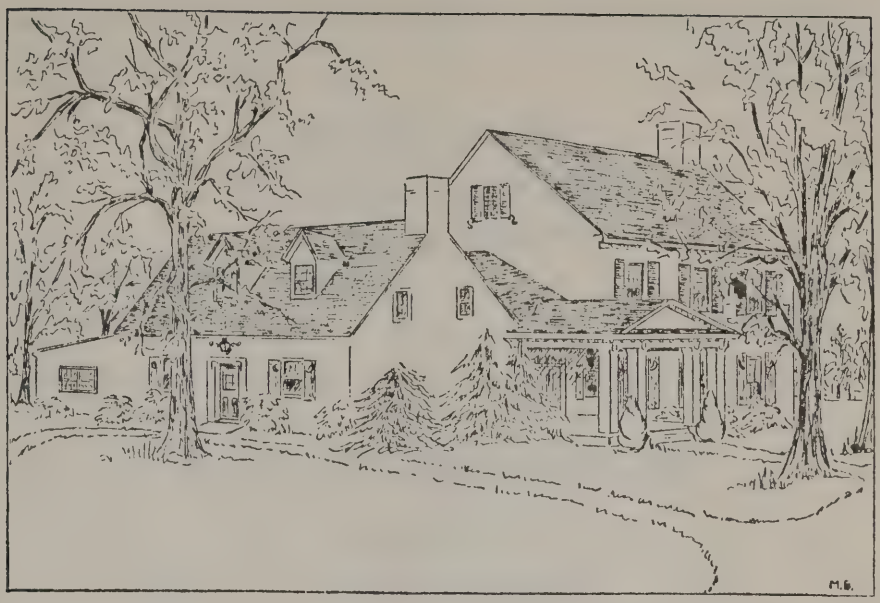

Caleb's Discovery

CALEB'S DISCOVERY, a lovely old brick home in a picturesque setting, remained in the Tingle family until 1887. Its exact age is unknown but it is known that the house consists of two sections built at different times and typical of early and late colonial architecture.

The older section, which now contains the dining room and kitchen, was an early colonial brick cottage containing a "break-neck" stairway beside a huge open fireplace with a hand hewn wooden beam arch, large enough to burn seven foot logs.

The physical dimensions of this section together with the story and a half construction plus the large fireplace with its four arched niches are all typical of early 1700 architecture.

The larger two story section, also of brick, is believed to have been added by Judge William Tingle who died in 1824. This section contains two lovely fireplaces, the mantels of which are almost identical with a mantel in the drawing room of "Almodington" Somerset County, Maryland, which is now on display in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

Another interesting feature is the fact that though this house is of brick, the exterior walls have been plastered and marked to resemble blocks. At the second floor level of the two story section can be seen large wrought iron supports in the form of an S. These "S's" are the ends of tie rods which run through the house keeping the outside walls from separating.

The actual name of this house is lost in history. It is believed to be on the tract of land called Caleb's Discovery, hence its present name.

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For all practical purposes it can be said that Berlin is situated on four tracts of land, "Burley," a tract of 300 acres patented to Wm. Tompkins on July 12, 1683, "Mt. Pleasant", "Littleworth" and "Pinder's Neglect" patented to John Emmoll on May 10, 1685. In those early times all of this area was a part of Somerset County, and was commonly called "Sea Side." Worcester County became a county in its own right in 1742.

There has been much speculation among the "townfolk" as to the origin of the name Berlin. Perhaps the only thing that can be agreed upon is that it did not derive its name from the German capitol of the same name. This is substantiated by the fact that this county is predominately of English decent and therefore it is unlikely a German name would be designated for this English community.

Life in "Sea Side" had its beginning some distance east of the present site of Berlin, but in later years when travel increased, local inhabitants moved out along the "Delaware Trail" which is now Main Street, Berlin, Md.

Berlin is proud to claim its right to the birthplace of one of our country's most illustrious early naval heroes,Stephen Decatur. In the Spring of 1778 Stephen Decatur, Senior, brought his young wife from Philadelphia to Worcester county. It is thought that the elder Decatur wished to have the prospective mother away from the excitement and danger of the occupation of Philadelphia at that time by the British troops under Lord Howe. The house, in which Stephen Decatur was born, then belonged to Isaac Murray, and the Decaturs lived there only a short time. They returned to Philadelphia when Stephen, Junior was three months old.

Decatur entered the American Navy in 1798 and because of bravery at Tripoli in 1804, he was promoted to Captain, then the highest rank in the Navy, at the early age of 25. Later commands gave him courtesy titles of post-captain and commodore. In 1816 he was made one of the commissioners of the American Navy.

It was Stephen Decatur who gave this toast at Norfolk in 1816: "Our country! In her intercourse with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country right or wrong."

Berlin today is justly proud of its heritage and local enterprises. We boast of one of the finest volunteer fire companies in the State and our own electric generating plant is the envy of many Eastern Shore towns.

There are 2,005 residents within the town limits supporting many fine businesses, three churches for its white inhabitants and one for the negroes. A consolidated high school is now under construction two miles east of Berlin and the present building will be utilized as an elementary and junior high school.

Berlin is one of the main centers of the vast broiler industry thriving on the Eastern Shore. Other major industries include lumber mills, grain mills, canning factories, hosiery mill, garment factory, nursery and veneer plant. Employment is high and Berlin's inhabitants are pleased with their lot. We sincerely hope you will find Berlin as pleasant as we believe it to be.

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Lucky Find

LUCKY FIND, a quaint, tiny cottage is believed to have been built by Thomas Bowen. The exact date of the building is not known but it is built on the Mexico tract which was granted in 1700 by Charles the second.

The deed describes the house as being on the "Old Mexico Road." This road is bound to Pepper's Slew or inlet and this is believed to have been a landing point in early days.

Many Indian relics have been found in the nearby regions and some of them will be on display in this home.

The cottage contains many interesting features; one being the wallpaper in the dining room; the paper is the original paper - it is European paper, printed in America in 1820.

The entire house, with the exception of a room added by the present owner is mortised and put together with pegs.

The dining room also contains 23 inch pine paneling below the dado and both original downstairs rooms have hand hewn exposed beams in the ceiling.

The whole house is furnished in antiques. There is a gateleg table and 2 side chairs which are particularly noteworthy. Also on display will be an American, clear glass blown 3 mold pitcher in Barouqe Shell and ribbing pattern. This pitcher is very rare and was made in Sandwich, Mass. The outside of the house is just as tastfully and beautifully arranged in the period and style to compliment the cottage. The original well can be seen in the side yard.

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